

U.S. Geological Survey
Columbia Environmental Research Center
4200 New Haven Road, Columbia, MO 65201

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Many Voices • One Horizon

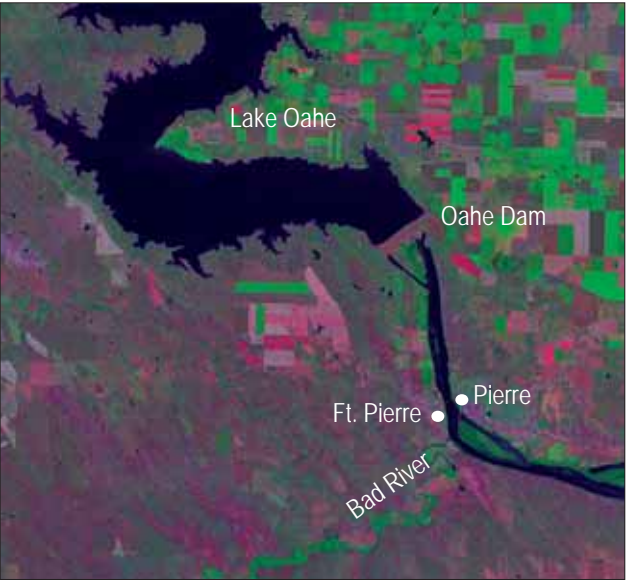


9th Annual Missouri River Natural Resources Conference

A forum for Missouri River stakeholders to share perspectives, solve problems, and exchange information on Missouri River natural resource management.

May 22-25 • 2005

Ramkota RiverCentre
Pierre, South Dakota



Satellite image of the Pierre area from July 14, 2000.



Extremely low lake water levels on Lake Oahe are obvious at Okebojo Point where the boat ramp ends 100 yards above the water. Discussions at this field trip site focus on the 231-mile long Lake Oahe and this problem.



In South Dakota, dams built fifty years ago transformed the Missouri River into a system of reservoirs. Only in the Missouri National Recreation River on the state's southern border with Nebraska are there two relatively free flowing river sections. The conference highlights what this transformation meant, and means today, for the people and environment.



Built in 1910, the Pierre state capitol building was fully restored in 1989.

Conference Hosts

South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, & Parks
Alliance of Tribal Tourism Advocates
Missouri River Natural Resources Committee
U.S. Geological Survey

Additional Organizers

City of Pierre
Missouri River Basin Association
South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources
HDR Engineering, Inc.
American Rivers
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Missouri Department of Conservation



Bad River sediment inflows to Lake Sharpe cause an increase in flooding at Pierre and Fort Pierre. Field trips view the problem and discuss possible solutions.

Call for Presentations

Submit Presentation Online

<http://infolink.cr.usgs.gov/events/05.htm>

Deadline November 15, 2004

If you can't access the web page, call 573-876-1876 or email jheuser@usgs.gov. Registration materials will be available in March, 2005. The fee should be around \$150. All presenters pay fee.

Questions?

Contact: Jim Riis, Conference Chairman
South Dakota Department of Game, Fish,
and Parks: 605-223-7701 jim.riis@state.sd.us

You are Invited to Present

The following types of presentations are requested. If your idea doesn't quite fit these categories, or you have questions, contact Jim Riis at 605-223-7701; jim.riis@state.sd.us

Paper (15 minutes with an extra 5 minutes for questions). Provide a presentation orally, with or without visual aids (slides or PowerPoint on the computer).

Theme session (1 to 1-1/2 hours). Group 3-4 paper presentations around a specific topic or case study of related content.

Poster (continuous display during conference with a special 2 hour session to discuss your work). Provide a poster that is about 3 feet wide by 4 to 6 feet long.

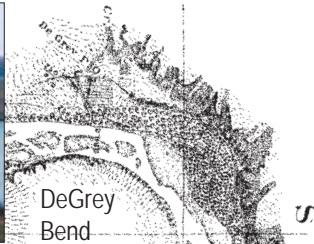
Exhibits (shown in conjunction with posters). Showcase your organization or business with a freestanding or table top exhibit.

Keynote speaker (30 minutes). Apply for yourself or someone else who can provide a special overview of one of the designated conference topics (see box on right).

Panel (1 to 1-1/2 hours). Gather 3-5 people together to present their views and discuss with the audience. It's particularly interesting if panelists cover a wide-range of viewpoints.

Tutorials/Workshops (2-8 hours before, during, or after the conference). Take advantage of this gathering of people to conduct: 1) an internal meeting for your organization, 2) an in depth tutorial on a Missouri River scientific subject, 3) cultural exchange training to facilitate improved relationships, 4) a sharing between Missouri River resource professionals and young people about employment opportunities, or 5) any other topic that relates to Missouri River natural resources.

Project. Plan or conduct a restoration project at a specific site on the river, such as planting trees or a lost medicinal herb. Provide a site, the restoration need, and possible ideas for a restoration practice when you apply.



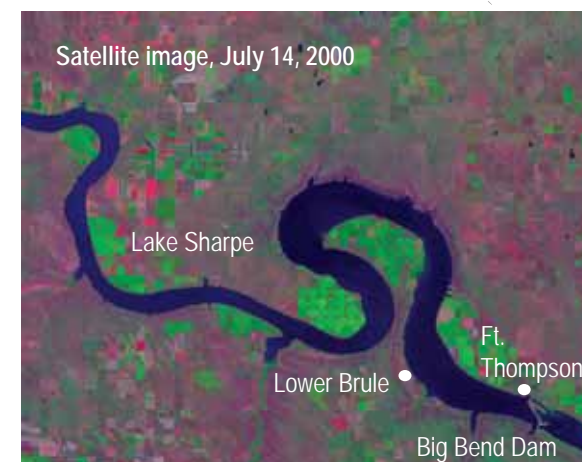
Conference Topics

The conference attracts over 250 Missouri River stakeholders including citizens, academics, scientists, resource managers, and policymakers who are interested in natural resources management or social conditions related to the environment. All types of natural resource monitoring, studies and projects are requested as presentations. We are especially interested in topics on:

- ✓ Pre-dam environmental conditions: what changes occurred to the water, plants, wildlife and their habitats and how have those changes affected the people and environment?
- ✓ Water allocation, water quality or low water levels.
- ✓ Cultural site protection and preservation.
- ✓ Recreation benefits and concerns.
- ✓ Use of GIS to for resource management decisions.
- ✓ Sediment problems resulting from tributary inflows.
- ✓ Aquatic and terrestrial river habitat restoration: we built it, did they come?
- ✓ Independent Science Review: how to integrate into Missouri River projects.



The Lower Brule Sioux Tribal Headquarters in Lower Brule is located on the Native American Scenic Highway 1806 south of Pierre. A field trip to Lower Brule provides a historical perspective on pre-dam Missouri River conditions.



1893 Missouri River Commission Map
(courtesy: USACE)

Only the outline shape remains of the Missouri River "Big Bend" in what is now Lake Sharpe south of Pierre. Big Bend Dam at Fort Thompson turned the meandering river into a deep lake.

